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**From:** Carmichael, Lea [Carmichael.Lea@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 2/12/2019 7:36:48 PM  
**To:** Courtnage, Robert [Courtnage.Robert@EPA.GOV]; Winchester, Erik [Winchester.Erik@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: PRESS INQUIRY: PBS NewsHour Asbestos  
**Attachments:** FW: PRESS INQUIRY: Building Green - TSCA - 4pm TODAY

Robert, Erik,

Per Brian's attached email – should OPPT IO be including Tom, Brian, and Tanya on all press inquiries? Or not so much since Robert has returned?

These are different questions from the first round.

Lea

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**From:** Ortiz, Julia  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 2:22 PM  
**To:** Courtnage, Robert <Courtnage.Robert@EPA.GOV>  
**Cc:** Winchester, Erik <Winchester.Erik@epa.gov>; Carmichael, Lea <carmichael.lea@epa.gov>; Pierce, Alison <Pierce.Alison@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** PRESS INQUIRY: PBS NewsHour Asbestos

OCSPP would like us to respond to what we can – some of these look like OLEM questions (the disposal and waste management ones). Please confirm so I can shunt those off. I'm also asking them to check to see if these are still the questions they want answered – their focus may have narrowed in the year (!) since they originally asked. Anyway, get started on the ones we have stock answers for and I'll try to get some specifics on the others. Thank you!

**From:** Daguiard, Robert  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 11:10 AM  
**To:** Strauss, Linda <Strauss.Linda@epa.gov>; Dunton, Cheryl <Dunton.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Ortiz, Julia <Ortiz.Julia@epa.gov>; Pierce, Alison <Pierce.Alison@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Linda/OPPT: PBS NewsHour Asbestos

**PBS NEWSHOUR  
WILL TOUBMAN  
AWAITING DDL INFO**

Good morning everyone,

Anything we want to tell the reporter at this stage?

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Hi Robert,

Our piece was delayed - by a lot. I'm wondering if there is any update on this. And if you know of anyone at EPA who would talk on camera?

Most the questions above have not changed, but could update list if needed.

On Wed, Aug 29, 2018 at 4:18 PM Daguillard, Robert <[Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov](mailto:Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hey Will,

EPA and the U.S. Department of Justice are reviewing. Please refer to the court order, issued on August 22, 2018, for clarification on the 60-day period. – **EPA Spokesperson**

Cheers, R.

**Robert Daguillard**

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**From:** Will T [mailto:Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 22, 2018 2:22 PM  
**To:** Daguillard, Robert <[Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov](mailto:Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: PBS NewsHour Asbestos

Sorry for the delay, Robert

Much of these questions are written before we've had a chance to complete our interviews. I hope we have a chance to send additional questions once we get closer to our air date (should be late March/Early April). Thank you for reading these. We would love if someone from the EPA familiar with asbestos could talk to us on camera with our correspondent Miles O'Brien.

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Talk us through the TSCA process, it is a complicated one.

At the moment there are only 6 different specific minerals defined as "asbestos" but there are many other similar minerals, including the Libby amphiboles which pose health risks. Will any part of the current TSCA process look at those additional minerals? Why were those excluded?

Recent news of new cases where asbestos has been found as a contaminant in consumer products raises public fears. Is there any way for the TSCA process address these kinds of concerns?

Asbestos is used in the chlor-alkali industry as part of the chemical making process. What guidelines does the EPA use to ensure the workers handling the asbestos are safe?

How does the EPA recommend disposing asbestos?

We have read there is new research showing that in the right conditions asbestos has the ability move through soil easier then previously thought. Is the EPA looking into this?

We have talked to researchers who discovered natural occurring asbestos in Nevada (going back to 2015), it has been found around a school, homes, and there are people using recreation vehicles in the known areas of naturally occurring asbestos. When would the EPA get involved with a situation like this? Does the state have to call it in?

Can you walk us through a case where naturally occurring asbestos was found and the EPA was called in to manage it?

Generally - looking for someone to talk about the history of EPA and Asbestos. I understand asbestos was actually banned at one point and ultimately the industry sued and the ban was overturned.

Thank you again,

Will Toubman

Miles O'Brien Productions

917-301-5914

On Wed, Feb 21, 2018 at 4:50 PM, Will T Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) wrote:

Sorry, Robert

Got caught up with a deadline. Will get those out tomorrow.

Have a good evening.

Will

On Wed, Feb 21, 2018 at 7:38 AM, Daguillard, Robert <[Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov](mailto:Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov)> wrote:

Fantastic. Thanks, Will.

Robert Daguillard

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On Feb 20, 2018, at 6:21 PM, Will T <Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)> wrote:

Thank you for the follow up, Robert

We are still working on the segment about asbestos. I thought it would best to get in touch with you after our other interviews, but if there 's a chance we can interview someone at the EPA I'll start putting together some questions now.

I'll try to send questions over tomorrow afternoon.

Thank you,

Will Toubman

Miles O'Brien Productions

917-301-5914

On Tue, Feb 20, 2018 at 8:53 AM, Daguillard, Robert <[Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov](mailto:Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov)> wrote:

Good afternoon Will,

A quick follow-up to your conversation with Enesta late last month: Do you still need information from EPA on TSCA and asbestos? Do you have some specific questions you could send? That, if anything, would help us determine who best to put you in touch with, and if an interview is possible.

Thanks, R.

Robert Daguillard

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**From:** Will Toubman [mailto:[will@mobprod.com](mailto:will@mobprod.com)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 24, 2018 11:24 AM  
**To:** Jones, Enesta <[Jones.Enesta@epa.gov](mailto:Jones.Enesta@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Daguillard, Robert <[Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov](mailto:Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: PBS NewsHour Asbestos

Thank you, Enesta

I do not have specific questions quite yet. Maybe it'll be best to touch base with you after we interview other people so the EPA can respond.

Unless you think there is a chance we can have an on-camera expert from the EPA to discuss asbestos dangers, how to handle safely, the history, and TSCA procedures.

Thank you again,

Will

On Tue, Jan 23, 2018 at 4:48 PM, Jones, Enesta <[Jones.Enesta@epa.gov](mailto:Jones.Enesta@epa.gov)> wrote:

Thanks for the additional info, Will.

What are the specific questions you have of the agency re TSCA and asbestos?

On Jan 23, 2018, at 4:47 PM, Will Toubman <[will@mobprod.com](mailto:will@mobprod.com)> wrote:

Thank you for the quick response.

There is no hard deadline - I'd say over the next month would be great. If I had to guess, I'd say it would air in March. We have been meaning to do a story about asbestos for a while, and the new TSCA review peaked our interest.

We are speaking to other people, but have not interviewed anyone yet.

Thanks again for the help,

Will

On Tue, Jan 23, 2018 at 4:15 PM, Jones, Enesta <[Jones.Enesta@epa.gov](mailto:Jones.Enesta@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi Will, thanks for reaching out. We can look into an on-cam, but in case that's not feasible, can you please provide specific questions that we can respond to in writing – as well as your firm deadline? Also, anything in particular peaking your interest now in this subject? Are you speaking to anyone else for the piece? When is the story slated to air?

Robert Daguiard will pick this up when he returns tomorrow. I am getting the ball rolling today for him.

Thanks,

Enesta

**From:** Will Toubman [<mailto:will@mobprod.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 23, 2018 3:47 PM  
**To:** Courtnage, Robert <[Courtnage.Robert@EPA.GOV](mailto:Courtnage.Robert@EPA.GOV)>  
**Subject:** PBS NewsHour Asbestos

Good afternoon,

We are producing a segment about asbestos and new TSCA. I am wondering if there is an asbestos expert at the EPA who may be willing discuss on camera the history of asbestos, the dangers, and the review process it is going through. I think many are surprised it is not completely banned, and would be interested in the uses that may still hold value if handled safely.

Thank you for your consideration. Happy to have an off the record conversation sometime.

Will Toubman

Miles O'Brien Productions

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